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Agenda item 112 (a)
Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments

Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In paragraph 6 of its resolution 1997/17, adopted on 11 April 1997, the Commission on Human Rights, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to submit reports to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fourth session on progress towards the realization of the rights set forth in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, giving due reflection to:

(a) The views of all relevant national and international organizations, governmental or non-governmental, on the opportuneness and resource implications of appointing a special rapporteur to encourage the promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights in general;

(b) Their reactions to the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on a draft optional protocol for the consideration of communications concerning non-compliance with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/CN.4/1997/105, annex).

2. Upon the endorsement of the Economic and Social Council at its 1997 substantive session (decision 1997/244 of 22 July 1997), a note verbale and a letter have been sent by the Secretariat to collect information, which will be made available to the General Assembly as soon as possible.

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